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Attorneys for Plaintiffs, TOMAS BARRERA, SR., individually and as a Personal Representative of THE ESTATE OF TOMAS BARRERA, JR.

**UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
CENTRAL DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA**

MARIA LAZOS, et al,

Plaintiff,

vs.

CITY OF OXNARD, et al.,

Defendants.

TOMAS BARRERA, SR.

Plaintiff,

VS.

CITY OF OXNARD, et al,

Defendants.

Case No. CV 08-02987 RGK (SHx)

PLAINTIFFS' MOTION IN LIMINE
NO. 5 TO EXCLUDE EVIDENCE OF
DECEDENT'S PRIOR
INCARCERATION

TO ALL PARTIES AND THEIR ATTORNEYS OF RECORD:

Plaintiffs, MARIA LAZOS and TOMAS BARRERA, SR., individually and as representatives of the ESTATE OF TOMAS BARRERA, hereby move this Court for an order excluding any and all evidence, testimony, references to testimony/evidence or argument, relating to decedent's incarceration prior to the incident, other than to state the offenses and time frame.

This motion is made under Fed. R. Ev. 401, 402 and 403, and is based upon the

1 ground that the evidence is irrelevant and that its probative value is substantially
2 outweighed by the danger of undue prejudice to Plaintiffs.

3 This motion is further based on the attached Memorandum of Points and
4 Authorities, the pleadings and papers on file in this action and upon such of argument
5 and evidence as may be presented prior to or at the hearing of this motion.
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7 Dated: June 25 2009

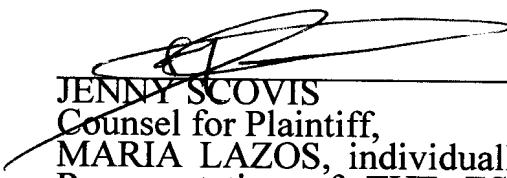
LAW OFFICES OF GREGORY A. YATES, P.C.



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10 GREGORY A. YATES
11 Co-Counsel for Plaintiffs,
12 TOMAS BARRERA, SR., individually and as a
13 Personal Representative of THE ESTATE OF
14 TOMAS BARRERA, JR.

15 Dated: June 26 2009

LAW OFFICES OF KIM SCOVIS



16 JENNY SCOVIS
17 Counsel for Plaintiff,
18 MARIA LAZOS, individually and as a Personal
19 Representative of THE ESTATE OF TOMAS
20 BARRERA, JR.
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1 **MEMORANDUM OF POINTS AND AUTHORITIES**

2 **I.**

3 **THE COURT SHOULD EXCLUDE ANY EVIDENCE OF DECEDENT'S**
 4 **INCARCERATION, OTHER THAN TO STATE THE OFFENSES AND TIME**
 5 **FRAME, AS BEING NOT RELEVANT AND HIGHLY PREJUDICIAL**

6 While the type of offenses and time frame in which decedent had been
 7 incarcerated might be relevant to the issue of damages, any other issue pertaining to
 8 decedent's incarceration will prove or disprove no issue in this action, and has no
 9 probative value. Therefore, such evidence should be excluded. *See United Satates*
 10 *v. Bejar-Matreciois*, 618 F.2d 81, 84 (9th Cir.1980) (trial court erred by admitting
 11 evidence of a prior conviction of the defendant, because to the extent that the
 12 evidence was relevant, it was outweighed by its unfairly prejudicial and cumulative
 13 nature.) While admitting such evidence has no probative value, it would be highly
 14 prejudicial to Plaintiffs, as it would depict decedent as a criminal and will arouse the
 15 jury's prejudice, hostility and antipathy.

16 At the time he pursued decedent, Salinas was not aware of decedent's identity
 17 and his criminal background. Since Salinas' state of mind is what relevant to
 18 determining the reasonableness of his conduct, decedent's criminal background,
 19 which was unknown to Salinas at the time he shot decedent, is irrelevant and has no
 20 probative value to this case.

21 If decedent is depicted as having criminal background, the jury might tend to
 22 make their determination on an improper basis, and conclude that officer Salinas was
 23 reasonable in shooting decedent only because he had a criminal record.

24 **II.**

25 **CONCLUSION**

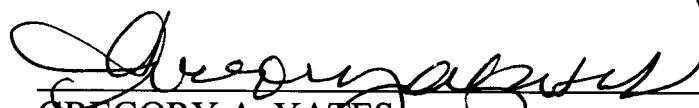
26 Based on the above, it is respectfully requested that the Court exclude any and
 27 all evidence, testimony, references to testimony/evidence or argument, relating to
 28 relating to decedent's incarceration prior to the incident, other than to state the

1 offenses and time frame.

2 Dated: June 23, 2009

LAW OFFICES OF GREGORY A. YATES, P.C.

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GREGORY A. YATES

Co-Counsel for Plaintiffs,

TOMAS BARRERA, SR., individually and as a Personal Representative of THE ESTATE OF TOMAS BARRERA, JR.

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9 Dated: June 26, 2009

LAW OFFICES OF KIM SCOVIS

10
11 JENNY SCOVIS



12 Counsel for Plaintiff,

13 MARIA LAZOS, individually and as a Personal Representative of THE ESTATE OF TOMAS BARRERA, JR.

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